

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06
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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2795

INFO ALL EC CAPS 2992

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

USNMR SHAPE

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, EFIS, PLOS

SUBJECT: EASTERN EUROPEAN REACTIONS TO EC NOTIFICATION OF
INTERIM FISHING QUOTAS FOR 1977

REF: EC BRUSSELS 137

1. FOLLOWING IS A RUN DOWN, PROVIDED BY COMMISSION
SOURCES, ON REACTIONS (OR THE LACK THEREOF) FROM
EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES FOLLOWING NOTIFICATION BY THE
EC COUNCIL PRESIDENCY AMBASSADOR OF THE COUNCIL DECISION
ON INTERIM FISHING QUOTAS IN THE NEW 200-MILE FISHING
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ZONES OF THE MEMBER STATES IN THE ATLANTIC AND NORTH
SEA (REFTEL):

(A) USSR - NO OFFICIAL REACTION BUT THEY ARE CLEARLY
INTERESTED IN CONTINUING TO FISH IN COMMUNITY
WATERS.

(B) ROMANIA HAS SENT A FORMAL COMMUNICATION DIRECTLY TO THE EC COMMISSION (THE ONLY EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY TO DO SO) INDICATING THAT IT WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN NEGOTIATION OF A FISHERY AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMISSION. WHILE "EXPLORATORY CONVERSATIONS" WITH GDR OFFICIALS FROM BUCHAREST MAY TAKE PLACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE, COMMISSION SOURCES INDICATED THAT THEY NOW HAVE NO INTENTION OF REVERSING THE EARLIER DECISION TO EXCLUDE ROMANIAN VESSELS SINCE THEY DO NOT HAVE A "TRADITIONAL" FISHERY IN EC WATERS.

(C) BULGARIA HAS PROTESTED THE EXCLUSION OF BULGARIAN FISHING BOATS FROM COMMUNITY WATERS TO THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR AND HAS ASSERTED ITS RIGHT AS A MEMBER OF ICNAF TO CONTINUE TO FISH IN THE NEW EC ZONES. THE COMMUNITY HAS REPLIED THROUGH THE COUNCIL PRESIDENCY THAT MEMBERSHIP IN ICNAF IS NOT SUFFICIENT AND THAT BULGARIA MUST HAVE ESTABLISHED A "TRADITIONAL FISHERY" IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A FISHING QUOTA IN COMMUNITY WATERS.

(D) EAST GERMANY HAS NOTIFIED THE COUNCIL PRESIDENCY THAT IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE BILATERAL FISHING AGREEMENTS WITH EACH EC MEMBER STATE. THE GDR HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT IT SHOULD ADDRESS THE EC COMMISSION AS THE ONLY BODY EMPOWERED TO CONDUCT SUCH NEGOTIATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES.

(E) POLAND IS IN THE SAME POSITION AS EAST
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GERMANY ALTHOUGH A NUMBER OF POLISH OFFICIALS HAVE APPROACHED THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST INFORMAL EXPLANATIONS.

3. A POLISH EMBASSY OFFICIAL IN BRUSSELS INFORMED THE MISSION THAT POLAND, AS CEMA PRESIDENT, SENT A CIRCULAR NOTE TO ALL CEMA MEMBERS INFORMING THEM OF THE EC'S ACTIONS IN REGARD TO FISHING OFF THE NEW EC ZONE AFTER JANUARY 1, INCLUDING THE EC'S WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE FISHERY AGREEMENTS WITH THREE CEMA MEMBERS (POLAND, USSR AND GDR) AND ASKED FOR COMMENTS BY THE END OF FEBRUARY. THE CEMA COUNCIL WILL STUDY THE RESPONSES AND DECIDE ON A COURSE OF ACTION AT ITS REGULAR MARCH 21 MEETING. A COMMISSION SOURCE COMMENTED TO US THAT EVEN IF THE THREE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES AGREED TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE EC COMMISSION IN LATE MARCH, THERE WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PUT AGREEMENTS IN PLACE BY THE END OF THE MONTH WHEN THE PRESENT INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS EXPIRE. HOWEVER, THE INITIAL EASTERN

EUROPEAN PROPOSAL, ACCORDING TO ONE POLISH EMBASSY
SOURCE, MAY WELL BE A PROPOSAL THAT CEMA NEGOTIATE
A FISHING AGREEMENT DIRECTLY WITH THE EC ON BEHALF
OF ITS MEMBERS. SUCH A PROPOSAL WOULD CAUSE EVEN FURTHER
DELAY BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO COMMISSION SOURCES, THE
EC WOULD HAVE SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT THE COMPETENCE OF
CEMA TO NEGOTIATE SUCH AGREEMENTS AND TO ASSURE THEIR
ENFORCEMENT BY THEIR MEMBER STATES. HENCE, UNLESS THE
EC IS WILLING TO GRANT FURTHER EXTENSIONS
OF INTERIM FISHING QUOTAS, THE USSR, GDR AND POLAND
MAY HAVE TO STOP FISHING AFTER MARCH 31.HINTON

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